

DESCRIPTIONS OF SEVEN SPECIES OF ASILUS.

(Family Asilidæ).

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This genus was considered in Volume II, pages 136-172 of the Annals of the Entomological Society of America, and Banks added one additional species and gave a key to a section of the genus in Psyche, Volume XXI, page 131. Since publishing on these robberflies I have accumulated much material and from this the following additional species are described at this time.

***Asilus gilvipes* n. sp.**

Large reddish species, legs all red with black bristles, posterior margin of the scutellum with four bristles, wings hyaline, oviduct conical, male forceps short. Total length 20 mm.

Face and front yellow pollinose, mystax composed mostly of yellow bristles, but with a few black ones above, beard straw yellow, antennæ palpi and proboscis black; thorax yellow pollinose, bristles of the dorsum black, wings hyaline, legs in all their parts red with black bristles; abdomen yellow pollinose, middle parts of the segments darker, giving a banded appearance, bristles mostly yellow; ovipositor short and distinctly conical, male forceps about as long as the seventh abdominal segment.

Holotype female from Saguache, Colorado, collected July 16, 1911, by A. K. Fisher, in the author's collection. An additional male and female with the same data, and an injured male from New Mexico belonging to the American Museum of Natural History.

***Asilus comosus* n. sp.**

A rather large robust species with a hairy body, large mystax and brownish wings. Coxæ and basal half or more of the femora black, remainder of the legs red. Length of the female 18 mm.

Mystax very large, long and black, reaching nearly to the base of the antennæ, beard pale yellowish, postorbital bristles numerous and black. Thorax with numerous long black bristles dorsally, scutellum distinctly hairy above and with several long black bristles on the posterior margin. Wings plainly tinged with brown, nearly uniform colored all over, legs black to beyond the middle of the femora, otherwise red, with black bristles and pale hair. Abdomen dark, hind borders of the

segments dorsally pale, bristles and hair pale; transverse rows of numerous bristles before the incisures; female genitalia black, rather short, compressed.

Holotype female collected by W. M. Wheeler in Monterey County, California, July 5, 1896. Property of the American Museum of Natural History. Two other females with the same data.

This species is very distinct from all others known to me, and for that reason I allow myself to describe it from the female only. It seems to fall in the subgenus **Antipalus**, not heretofore reported from America.

Asilus vescus n. sp.

Small black species with the sides of the thorax and posterior margins of the abdominal segments gray pollinose. Male genitalia dark reddish brown. Total length 10 mm.

Mystax black above, white beneath; antennae and proboscis black, beard white, thorax with two black stripes above very narrowly separated with a gray line, sides of the thorax gray pollinose, scutellum with some very fine gray hairs dorsally and two quite prominent black bristles on the posterior margin; wings hyaline, slightly gray on the posterior margin and at the apex; legs with femora wholly black, tibiae and tarsi dark reddish. Abdomen black, venter and posterior margins of the segments dorsally gray pollinose. Male genitalia dark reddish brown, but not contrasting strongly in color with the abdominal segments, cut out at the apex above and produced backward and inward at the apex below, so that a small, but distinct, open space may be seen enclosed from dorsal view with a lens. Female genitalia shining black.

Holotype male from Monterey County, California, collected July 2, 1896, by W. M. Wheeler, property of the American Museum of Natural History. Several other males and females taken at the same time by the same collector.

Asilus delicatulus n. sp.

Body gray with pale bristles, wings hyaline, legs red, scutellum distinctly hairy with a row of white bristles on the posterior margin. Total length 11 mm.

This is a very distinct species and suggests at once its sand-inhabiting habits. It appears to be related to **A. leucopogon**, although the female ovipositor does not have a circuit of spines at the tip as in that species. The male has the last two abdominal segments and the genitalia bright yellowish red and the female has the ovipositor of the same color. The delicate

appearance, the uniform gray color of the body, white bristles everywhere and the row of numerous white bristles on the margin of the scutellum are amply sufficient to identify the species.

Holotype male from Las Cruces, New Mexico, collected by J. M. Aldrich June 16, 1917 and deposited in his collection. He procured two males and four females from the same place on the same date.

***Asilus formosus* n. sp.**

Body yellowish gray pollinose all over, legs all red except each femur has a large darker spot on its anterior surface, wings clear hyaline, total length 18 mm.

Mystax pale yellowish, antennæ, palpi and proboscis black, beard white, postorbital bristles white, hair and bristles of the thoracic dorsum black, posterior margin of the scutellum with two black bristles, legs red with black bristles, each femur with a darkened patch on its anterior surface. Wings clear hyaline, bristles of the abdomen pale.

Holotype male from Clary County, Kansas, August 29, 1911, and another male from Stanton County, Kansas, July 29, 1911, both collected by F. X. Williams; in the author's collection. One male from Garden City, Kansas, August, 1895, H. W. Menke, collector.

***Asilus citus* n. sp.**

Body dark, abdomen with alternate dark and gray bands, thorax thinly gray pollinose, middle of the dorsum with two black stripes very narrowly separated; femora, except base and apex, black; otherwise legs red with black bristles; genitalia red. Total length 12 mm.

Mystax white with a few black bristles above, beard white, postorbital bristles largely white, a few black ones near the vertex. Bristles of the thoracic dorsum black, scutellum with two black bristles on its posterior margin, wings hyaline, apex and posterior margin faintly gray.

Holotype male from Santa Rita Mountains, Arizona, taken in July; F. H. Snow; in the author's collection. Fifteen males and females from the same locality.

The banded abdomen and the dark red genitalia of both sexes, together with the small size suggest this species.

***Asilus compositus* n. sp.**

Body slender, dark brown in color, legs yellowish brown, antennal bristles about twice as long as the third segment which bears it. This species is related to *gracilis*, which has the long antennal bristle also. Total length 17 mm.

Mystax white, very small, leaving a long distance between it and the base of the antennæ, beard white and sparse, posterior orbital bristles all pale; thorax lightly gray pollinose with black bristles dorsally, two black bristles on the posterior margin of the scutellum; legs yellowish brown, darker in places on the femora, bristles of the legs largely pale, but some black ones on the tibiæ and tarsi; wing hyaline, feintly gray on the hind margin and at the apex; abdomen dark with pale bristles. Genitalia dark brown, shining in both sexes.

Holotype male from San Diego, California, June 30, 1913, collected by E. P. Van Duzee; in the author's collection; a female with the same data, a male from Los Angeles County, California, collected by Coquillett, a male and female from Claremont, collected by Baker, and a male and female from Kerryville, Texas, collected by F. C. Pratt.

This species differs from **A. gracilis** in the much darker color of the whole body. The legs are brown instead of yellow and the mystax is white and not straw colored.